



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Buffalo District

## FACT SHEET

October 2021

### NIAGARA FALLS STORAGE SITE - LEWISTON, NEW YORK

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program

#### Location

- 1397 Pletcher Road, Town of Lewiston, NY. The site is a federally owned property of 191 acres. It is a part of the former 7,500-acre Lake Ontario Ordnance Works.

#### Project Description

- Operate and maintain the Niagara Falls Storage Site (NFSS) to ensure the physical security and environmental integrity of site grounds, infrastructure, buildings, and the 10-acre Interim Waste Containment Structure (IWCS).
- Conduct annual environmental surveillance to ensure radioactive materials and residues in the IWCS are not subjecting the public to a radiological dose and radon.
- Perform a comprehensive environmental investigation to assess the nature and extent of federal contamination, the associated human health and ecological risks, and identify long-term remedial alternatives.

#### Importance

- The long-term protectiveness of the IWCS is a critical health and safety issue for the local community.
- In 2008, the Department of Homeland Security designated the IWCS as critical infrastructure.
- As is, the site does not pose a threat to human health and the environment; however, elevated levels of radionuclides exist that exceed requirements and limitations promulgated under federal environmental laws.

#### Consequences

- Without daily maintenance, the IWCS could degrade and subject the public to a radiological dose and radon, increasing the possibility of contaminant migration to adjacent properties.
- Without physical maintenance and electronic security improvements, the site could be subject to criminal and terrorist threats.
- The USACE environmental investigations, decisions, and response actions at the NFSS will impact the FUSRAP Program's annual budget.

Project Phase	Estimated Federal Cost	Funding through FY20	FY22 Requirement	FY22 Budget	FY23 Requirement	FY23 Budget
*Investigation, Annual Site O&M, and Environmental Surveillance	\$647.9M	\$98.6M	\$4.1M	\$0	\$3.1M	TBD

\* Investigation phase includes remedial investigation, feasibility study, proposed plan, and record of decision. The scope of this project now includes three operable units (NFSS-IWCS, NFSS soils [Balance of Plant (BOP)], and NFSS groundwater). The ultimate Federal project cost for closing out all operable units will be known upon completion of records of decision for all seven operable units. Total Federal cost is to be determined after the completion of feasibility studies for all operable units.

### Project Customer

- Customers include the property owner (Department of Energy); affected communities; elected leaders; and local, state, and federal environmental and health agencies.

### Congressional Interests

- Representative Chris Jacobs R NY-27
- Senator Charles Schumer D NY
- Senator Kirsten Gillibrand D NY

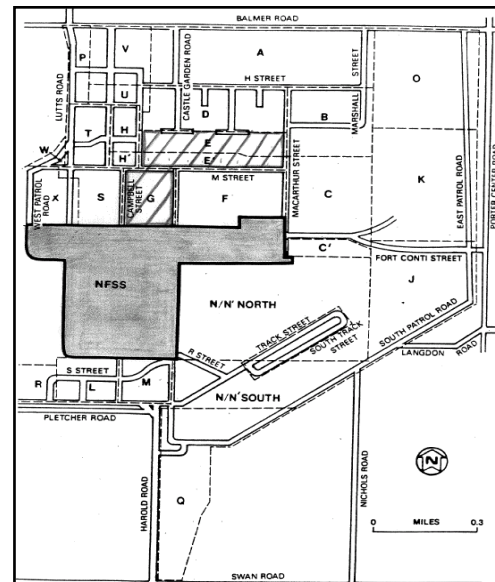
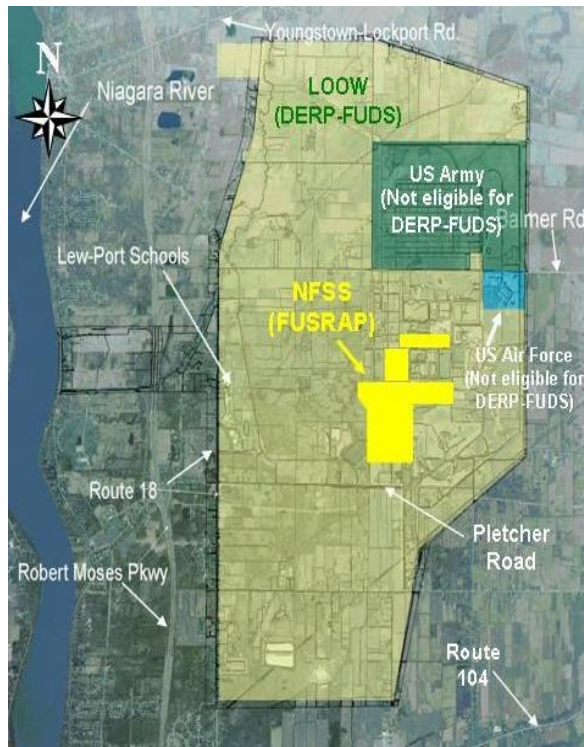
### Current Status

- The Record of Decision for the BOP and Groundwater Operational Units is drafted and under vertical chain review. Document will include responses to public comments and is expected to be released in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of FY22.

- LRB awarded a design contract in September 2021 for the remediation of the IWCS. The contract's first task order will be awarded in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of FY22, and will cover Preparation of Work Plans, Document Review and Project Kick-off Meeting and Site Tour.
- A comprehensive environmental surveillance program, conducted to verify the integrity of the IWCS and protectiveness of human health and the environment, indicates the IWCS is performing as designed and protective of human health and the environment.

### Issues

- None



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